

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A boot liner comprising:
  - a sole;
  - an upper part coupled to the sole to extend over the sole to form a foot receiving space, the upper part including a rear portion configured and arranged to support a rear area of a wearer's ankle, and a pair of side parts formed integrally with the rear portion to support side sections of the ankle, the side parts of the upper part both having front ends facing each other at the front of the ankle; and
  - a fastening mechanism coupled to the upper part and configured and arranged to tighten the upper part about the wearer's ankle, and the fastening mechanism having a main strap member comprising
    - a first fixed strap part fixed to the rear portion of the upper part and extending generally in a horizontal direction,
    - a pair of movable strap parts extending generally forward from forward ends of the first fixed strap part along side surfaces of the upper part, the movable strap parts being folded back to form a pair of insertion elements in the vicinity of the front ends of the upper part, and the movable strap parts being moveable in relation to the upper part such that the movable strap parts extend from the insertion elements along one of the side surfaces to an opposite side of the side surfaces with the movable strap parts intersecting each other at the rear portion, and
    - a pair of second fixed strap parts fixed to at least one of the sole and the upper part, the second fixed strap parts extending from distal ends of the movable strap parts.
2. The boot liner according to claim 1, wherein the movable strap parts are configured and arranged to intersect each other at the rear area of the wearer's ankle that is adjacent to a top of a heel.
3. The boot liner according to claim 2, wherein the rear portion of the upper part includes a vertically extending rear support having a restraint section and a release section, the restraint section being configured

and arranged to restrain the first fixed strap part of the main strap member to prevent movement in relation to the rear portion of the upper part, and the release section being configured and arranged to moveable retain of the movable strap parts of the main strap member in relation to the upper part.

4. The boot liner according to claims 3, wherein  
the first fixed strap part of the main strap member is fixed to and extends horizontally from the rear portion of the upper part to horizontally central sections of the side parts.

5. The boot liner according to claims 4, wherein  
the fastening mechanism further comprises an upper auxiliary strap member coupled to the upper part to form a pair of upper insertion elements near the front ends of the upper part at locations above the insertion elements of the main strap member; and  
the fastening mechanism further comprises a lower auxiliary strap member coupled to the upper part to form a pair of lower insertion elements near the front ends of the upper part at locations below the insertion elements of the main strap member.

6. The boot liner according to claim 5, wherein  
the movable strap parts of the main strap member are restrained to be immobile in relation to the upper part in a vicinity of the sole by the lower auxiliary strap member positioned below the main strap member.

7. The boot liner according to claim 6, wherein  
the upper and lower auxiliary strap members are fixedly coupled to the upper part along their lengths, except for areas near the front ends of the upper part.

8. The boot liner according to claim 5, wherein  
the upper and lower auxiliary strap members are fixedly coupled to the upper part along their lengths, except for areas near the front ends of the upper part.

9. The boot liner according to claim 5, wherein  
the insertion elements are formed behind the front ends.

10. The boot liner according to claim 5, wherein  
the sole and the upper part are configured and arranged to form an inner boot  
liner of a snowboard boot having an outer boot.

11. The boot liner according to claim 1, wherein  
the rear portion of the upper part includes a vertically extending rear support  
having a restraint section and a release section, the restraint section being configured  
and arranged to restrain the first fixed strap part of the main strap member to prevent  
movement in relation to the rear portion of the upper part, and the release section  
being configured and arranged to moveable retain of the movable strap parts of the  
main strap member in relation to the upper part.

12. The boot liner according to claim 1, wherein  
the first fixed strap part of the main strap member is fixed to and extends  
horizontally from the rear portion of the upper part to horizontally central sections of  
the side parts.

13. The boot liner according to claim 1, wherein  
the fastening mechanism further comprises an upper auxiliary strap member  
coupled to the upper part to form a pair of upper insertion elements near the front ends  
of the upper part at locations above the insertion elements of the main strap member;  
and

the fastening mechanism further comprises a lower auxiliary strap member  
coupled to the upper part to form a pair of lower insertion elements near the front ends  
of the upper part at locations below the insertion elements of the main strap member.

14. The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein  
the movable strap parts of the main strap member are restrained to be  
immobile in relation to the upper part in a vicinity of the sole by the lower auxiliary  
strap member positioned below the main strap member.

15. The boot liner according to claim 14, wherein  
the upper and lower auxiliary strap members are fixedly coupled to the upper  
part along their lengths, except for areas near the front ends of the upper part.
16. The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein  
the upper and lower auxiliary strap members are fixedly coupled to the upper  
part along their lengths, except for areas near the front ends of the upper part.
17. The boot liner according to claim 13, wherein  
the insertion elements are formed behind the front ends.
18. The boot liner according to claim 1, wherein  
the sole and the upper part are configured and arranged to form an inner boot  
liner of a snowboard boot having an outer boot.